

AMENDMENT OF THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims below replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims:

- 1           1.       (Previously Presented) A method, comprising:  
2                    receiving a call request from a first media gateway controller to a second  
3 media gateway controller over a network;  
4                    requesting information from the first media gateway controller; and  
5                    receiving the information before establishing a bearer path over the  
6 network.
  
- 1           2.       (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the call  
2 request comprises receiving the call request over a packet-based network.
  
- 1           3.       (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the call  
2 request comprises receiving the call request over an Asynchronous Transfer Mode  
3 network.
  
- 1           4.       (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein receiving the call  
2 request comprises receiving a BICC IAM message.
  
- 1           5.       (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the call  
2 request comprises receiving the call request over an Internet Protocol network.
  
- 1           6.       (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein receiving the call  
2 request comprises receiving an IAM message encapsulated in a Session Initiation  
3 Protocol message.
  
- 1           7.       (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein requesting the  
2 information comprises requesting the information in a Session Initiation Protocol  
3 message.

1           8.       (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein requesting the  
2 information comprises providing a digit map within the Session Initiation Protocol  
3 message.

1           9.       (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein requesting the  
2 information comprises requesting digits to establish a call session, and wherein receiving  
3 the information comprises receiving the requested digits before establishing the bearer  
4 path over the network in response to the call request.

1           10.      (Original) The method of claim 1, further including terminating the call in  
2 response to receiving the information.

1           11.      (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein requesting the  
2 information comprises requesting the information in response to determining that  
3 additional digits are desired to establish the call.

1           12.      (Original) An apparatus, comprising:  
2                   a first interface coupled to a packet-based network; and  
3                   a controller communicatively coupled to the first interface, the controller  
4                   to:  
5                   receive a call request from a media gateway controller over the  
6 packet-based network;  
7                   determine if at least one digit is required to establish a call session;  
8                   and  
9                   receive the at least one digit from the media gateway controller  
10 over the packet-based network from the media gateway controller in response to  
11 determining that the at least one digit is required.

1           13.      (Original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the packet-based network  
2 comprises one of an Asynchronous Transfer Mode network and an Internet Protocol  
3 network.

1           14.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the controller  
2   is adapted to receive the call request in one of a BICC IAM and Session Initiation  
3   Protocol message.

1           15.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the controller  
2   is further adapted to request the at least one digit from the media gateway controller over  
3   the packet-based network in response to determining that the at least one digit is required  
4   to establish the call session.

1           16.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the controller  
2   is adapted to receive the at least one digit in at least one of a Session Initiation Protocol  
3   message and a BICC message.

1           17.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the controller  
2   is adapted to request a digit map within the Session Initiation Protocol message.

1           18.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the controller is further  
2   adapted to complete the call session in response to receiving the at least one digit.

1           19.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the controller is further  
2   adapted to receiving information during the call session.

1           20.   (Previously Presented) An apparatus, comprising:  
2                   a first interface to couple to a first network;  
3                   a second interface to couple to a packet-based network; and  
4                   a controller communicatively coupled to the first and second  
5   interfaces, the controller to:  
6                   receive a call request over the first network from a terminal;  
7                   transmit the call request over the packet-based network to a media  
8   gateway controller;

9                               prior to a call session being established in response to the call  
10 request, receive a request to collect digits from the media gateway controller over the  
11 packet-based network;  
12                               collect digits from the terminal; and  
13                               transmit the collected digits to the media gateway controller.

1           21.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the first network is a  
2 Signaling System #7 network.

1           22.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the controller is adapted to  
2 receive the call request in an IAM message.

1           23.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the packet-based network  
2 comprises one of an Asynchronous Transfer Mode network and an Internet Protocol  
3 network.

1           24.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the controller is adapted to  
2 collect the digits from a media gateway over the packet-based network.

1           25.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the controller  
2 is adapted to collect the digits from the media gateway according to at least one of a  
3 Megaco protocol, a media gateway controller protocol, a simple gateway controller  
4 protocol, and an Internet protocol device control.

1           26.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the controller  
2 is adapted to transmit the digits within a Session Initiation Protocol message prior to the  
3 call session being established.

1           27.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the controller  
2 is adapted to receive the request to collect the digits from the media gateway within a  
3 Session Initiation Protocol message.

1           28.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the controller is further  
2 adapted to receive a request to collect digits after establishing a call session.

1           29.   (Previously Presented) An article comprising at least one machine-  
2 readable storage medium containing instructions that when executed cause a processor to:  
3               receive a request to establish a call session over a packet-based network  
4 from a media gateway controller;  
5               request information from the media gateway controller; and  
6               receive the information from the media gateway controller before  
7 establishing a bearer path over the packet-based network.

1           30.   (Original) The article of claim 29, wherein the instructions when executed  
2 cause the processor to receive the request over one of an Asynchronous Transfer Mode  
3 network and an Internet Protocol network.

1           31.   (Previously Presented) The article of claim 29, wherein the instructions  
2 when executed cause the processor to receive the request in one of a BICC IAM and  
3 Session Initiation Protocol message.

1           32.   (Previously Presented) The article of claim 29, wherein the instructions  
2 when executed cause the processor to request the information in a Session Initiation  
3 Protocol message.

1           33.   (Previously Presented) The article of claim 29, wherein the instructions  
2 when executed cause the processor to receive the information in a Session Initiation  
3 Protocol message before establishing a bearer path over the packet-based network.

1           34.   (Previously Presented) The article of claim 29, wherein the instructions  
2 when executed cause the processor to establish the bearer path over the packet-based  
3 network after receiving the information.

1           35.     (Original) The article of claim 29, wherein the instructions when executed  
2 cause the processor to receive the information indicating that the request may not be  
3 completed.

1           36.     (Original) The article of claim 29, wherein the instructions when executed  
2 caused the processor to receive a request for information after establishing the voice path  
3 over the packet-based network.

1           37.     (Previously Presented) A data signal embodied in a carrier wave  
2 comprising instructions that when executed cause a processor to:  
3                   receive a call request from a media gateway controller over a packet-based  
4 network; and  
5                   receive at least one digit in one of a BICC and a Session Initiation  
6 Protocol message from the media gateway controller before establishing a bearer path  
7 over the packet-based network in response to the call request.

1           38.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the call  
2 request comprises receiving a Session Initiation Protocol Invite message containing an  
3 ISUP initial address message (IAM), wherein requesting and receiving the information  
4 occurs prior to sending a Session Initiation Protocol OK message in response to the Invite  
5 message.

1           39.     (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the  
2 information comprises receiving the information in a Session Initiation Protocol Info  
3 message prior to establishing a bearer path over the network in response to the call  
4 request.

1           40.     (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the controller  
2 is adapted to receive the at least one digit prior to establishing the call session in response  
3 to the call request.

1           41.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 40, wherein the call request  
2 comprises a Session Initiation Protocol Invite message, and wherein the controller is  
3 adapted to receive the at least one digit in a Session Initiation Protocol Info message prior  
4 to establishing the call session.

1           42.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 41, wherein the controller  
2 is adapted to receive the at least one digit in a Session Initiation Protocol Info message  
3 prior to the controller sending a Session Initiation Protocol OK message in response to  
4 the Invite message.

1           43.   (Previously Presented) The article of claim 29, wherein the request  
2 comprises a Session Initiation Protocol Invite message, and wherein requesting the  
3 information from the media gateway controller comprises sending a Session Initiation  
4 Protocol Info message to the media gateway controller prior to establishing a call session  
5 in response to the Invite message.

1           44.   (Previously Presented) The data signal of claim 37, wherein the call  
2 request comprises a Session Initiation Protocol Invite message, and wherein receiving the  
3 at least one digit comprises receiving the at least one digit in a Session Initiation Protocol  
4 Info message prior to establishing a call session in response to the Invite message.

1           45.   (Previously Presented) The article of claim 33, wherein receiving the  
2 information in a Session Initiation Protocol message comprises receiving the information  
3 in a Session Initiation Protocol Info message before establishing a bearer path over the  
4 packet-based network.

1           46.   (New) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the information  
2 comprises receiving the information requested from the first media gateway controller  
3 before establishing the bearer path over the network for the call request.